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fidently recommend it to any one who wishes to own such an instrument. The price and terms of sale can be learned from Mr. ROOT. E. S. H.

## SCIENTIFIC VISITORS TO THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

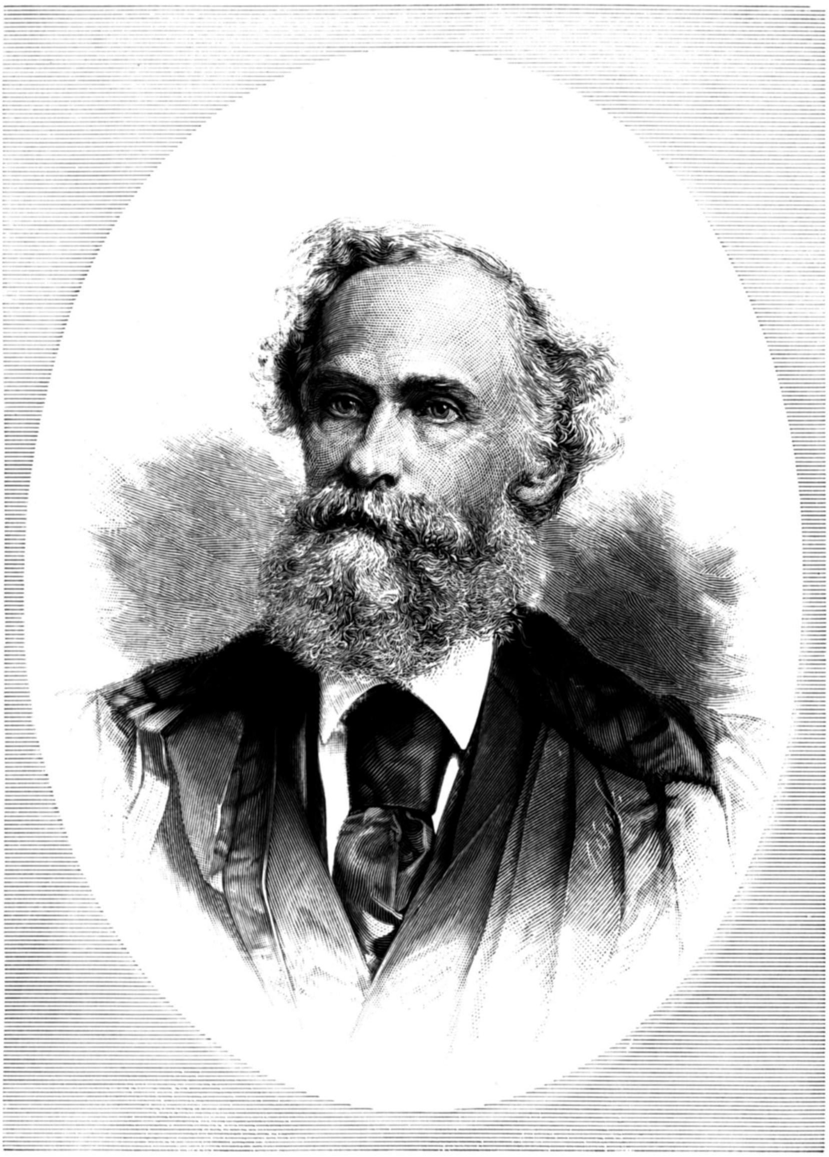
On April 28 and 29 we had the pleasure of receiving Dr. A. MARCUSE, of the Royal Observatory of Berlin, and Mr. E. D. PRESTON, of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, who are on their way to Honolulu to engage in a series of observations for the determination of the short-period changes in the latitude (see *Publications* A. S. P., vol. II, p. 135). Mr. PRESTON will also determine the force of gravity at various stations in Hawaii, as Mauna Loa, etc., in connection with much other work of the kind already done by him (see *Publications* A. S. P., vol. I, p. 125). Although the season of steady vision had not yet set in and the images of stars were not to be compared with those to be had during the summer and autumn, yet the nights were clear and our guests were able to see *Saturn*, *Uranus*, some stars and nebulae and also to examine the solar spectrum with the great telescope under moderately good circumstances; as well as to make a thorough examination of the working of the dome, the moving-floor and the mounting of the 36-inch equatorial.

E. S. H.

## JOHN LE CONTE, BORN 1818, DIED 1891.

After a long life of eminent services to Science and to Education and of strong personal influence over the many who were brought into contact with him, Professor JOHN LE CONTE died at Berkeley, April 29, 1891, at the age of 73 years. He belonged to a family many of whose members were and are highly distinguished in Science. His own scientific labors have been successively in the fields of Medicine, Chemistry and Physics, and among his numerous published memoirs there are many of permanent and lasting value. His most striking contribution to Physics was the discovery (in 1857) of the remarkable properties of "sensitive-flames" which afford a most delicate means of analysing compound musical tones. His important experiments on sound-shadows in water were wholly novel and of great value.

Almost his entire life was spent in the teaching of Science, and, since 1869, he has been the most prominent figure at our State



JOHN LE CONTE,

BORN 1818; DIED 1891.

[By permission of the Editor of the Popular Science Monthly.]

University as President and as Professor of Physics. The basis of his wide-spread personal influence was the genuine respect inspired by his gentle and upright character and by his profound devotion to learning. His daily contact with the Regents of the University, with his colleagues in the Faculties and with the students in the Colleges, continued, as it was, over a long period of years, has impressed very many different individuals under a great variety of circumstances and has set its seal upon them all; and through them upon the community at large.

Perhaps the highest service which a great teacher renders to his students is a moral one, and consists in the unconscious daily exhibition of a character and conduct which they must unreservedly respect and honor. If this is a high service, any where and at any time, it was particularly and specially serviceable during the early days of the University of California, when the educational ideals of a new community were forming.

To this task, which was often most thankless and ungracious, Dr. LE CONTE brought a patient courtesy, a high standard of thought, a scholarly devotion, which, in the end, completely vanquished active opposition and crude indifference. His last years must have given him, unmingled satisfaction, for his name was honored and respected by an entire community which had come to consider him as, in a remarkable degree, the bright example of a true scholar and citizen.

It may truly be said that there is no learned Institution or Society in California whose work has not been prepared and made easier by his labors and by his influence; and in every sense and in all relations, he has deserved well of the Republic. So long as learning lasts among us his name will be honorably remembered in Science, and as one of the founders of genuine education in our midst. EDWARD S. HOLDEN.

## OBITUARY NOTICE OF PROFESSOR SCHOENFELD, BY PROFESSOR A. KRUEGER; (TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY OTTO V. GELDERN.)

Professor Dr. EDWARD SCHOENFELD, Director of the Bonn University, died on the first day of May, 1891, in the sixty-third year of his age. He was born on the 22d of December, 1828, at Hildburghausen, where he attended the Gymnasium until he took up the study of engineering at the Cassel Polytechnicum. A year later he visited the Polytechnic School of Hanover for the same